TENNESSEE
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TENNESSEE WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

Released Weekly April - November

2005 Weather Crop 17 | Issued 3:00 P.M. 07/25/2005 | Week Ending July 24, 2005

SCATTERED THUNDERSTORMS SUSTAIN CROPS AND PASTURES

An upper level trough moved across the State early last week, kicking off scattered thunderstorms over much of Tennessee. These showers helped balance the hot temperatures which returned by week's end. As a result, crop condition ratings all improved from the week earlier, with cotton showing the largest boost. As of Sunday, nearly three-fourths of the State's cotton acreage was setting bolls, about a week ahead of the normal pace. Corn made good progress last week as nearly all of the acreage had reached or surpassed the silking stage. Also, over half of the acreage had reached the dough stage, with denting occurring in some fields. Tobacco growers have topped about a third of the crop. Growers were also busy applying sucker controls as weather permitted. Tobacco was rated in mostly good-to-fair condition. Hay harvest continued with producers making their second cuttings of alfalfa, slightly behind the normal schedule. There were 4 days suitable for fieldwork last week. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 1percent very short, 8 percent short, 80 percent adequate, and 11 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 2 percent very short, 11 percent short, 81 percent adequate, and 6 percent surplus. Last week, temperatures averaged about 2 to 3 degrees above normal across the entire State. Rainfall averaged below normal Statewide.

CROP PROGRESS: Through July 24, 2005

Crop	This Week	Last Week	2004	Five Year Avg.
	Percent			
Corn - Silking or Beyond	97	92	98	98
Corn - Dough	57	36	71	59
Corn - Dent	16	3	23	14
Cotton Setting Bolls	73	48	67	63
Soybeans - Blooming	87	74	56	48
Soybeans - Setting Pods	66	48	31	25
Tobacco Topped	30	17	38	34
Alfalfa Hay - 2nd Cutting	86	79	84	91

CONDITION: On July 22, 2005

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
	Percent				
Corn	3	7	22	53	15
Cotton	0	1	13	60	26
Tobacco	1	4	27	57	11
Pastures	1	7	34	52	6
Soybeans	1	5	19	54	21

CORN: Virtually all of the corn acreage had reached the silking stage by week's end, while over half of the acreage had entered the dough stage. Despite evidence of pollination problems in a few areas, the crop was rated in mostly good condition.

COTTON: The hot weather continued to boost cotton development, which is now about a week ahead of the normal pace. Seventy-three percent of the crop was setting bolls and was rated in mostly good-to-excellent condition.

SOYBEANS: Soybeans were blooming and setting pods more than three weeks ahead of normal. The recent showers should provide timely moisture for double-cropped soybean development. The crop was rated in mostly good condition.

TOBACCO: Topping and applying sucker controls were the main activities for tobacco growers last week. Problems with black shank continued, with severe damage in a few areas. The crop was rated in mostly fair-to-good condition.

PASTURES & HAY: Pastures continued to rebound from earlier moisture shortages and were rated in mostly fair-to-good condition. Farmers were nearing completion of their second cuttings of alfalfa hay.

County Agent Comments

"Good rain showers combined with hot weather is helping cotton to overcome some of it's earlier dry weather problems."
- Mitchell Mote, Rutherford County

"Timely rains were a blessing. We could use a little drier weather for farmers to return to the fields, however."
- Ronnie Barron, Cheatham County

"We have seen some disease pressure in tomatoes due to high moisture levels. Pastures and cattle are in good shape."
- Jerry Lamb, Rhea County

"Spraying is going on for insects and diseases. The weather has been good, with crops fairing well despite the hot and humid temperatures."
- Jeffery D. Via, Fayette County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION

For week ending: July 24th, 2005 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F	
	Week Ending July 24, 2005				Current Week	Rain	Current Since	Departure From	Since April 1	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	07/24/05	Days	January 1	Normal	Total	DFN
Ames_Plantation	96	72	83	+5	0.11	2	32.74	+1.36	1316	-4
Tri-City_RGNL_A	88	63	77	+3	2.30	5	26.65	+2.19	889	+43
Brownsville_TN	96	72	83	+3	0.87	5	29.15	-2.25	1393	+260
Chattanooga/Lov	92	71	81	+3	0.06	3	30.46	-1.29	1261	+62
Clarksville_Sew	97	71	83	+5	0.36	3	26.15	-3.39	1296	+153
Cookeville	92	68	79	+4	0.73	5	29.87	-3.58	1001	+322
Covington	95	71	82	+3	1.84	1	30.37	-0.68	1278	-62
Crossville_AP	88	67	77	+4	0.39	4	28.80	-4.26	894	+109
Dickson_AG	92	69	80	+3	0.66	3	28.82	-3.06	1037	-165
Dover_1W	93	71	81	+5	0.04	2	26.85	-3.98	1159	+154
Dyersburg	97	72	83	+3	0.46	1	27.16	-2.53	1419	-16
Erwin_1W	89	65	77	+6	1.27	5	28.97	-0.30	798	-228
Huntingdon_Wate	93	72	82	+4	0.78	2	28.86	-2.28	1238	+163
Jackson_Exp_Stn	95	72	83	+5	0.08	1	33.04	+1.72	1319	+55
Kingston_AG	91	69	79	+4	0.86	3	33.23	-1.37	1037	+123
Knoxville_AP	91	71	81	+5	0.13	2	24.63	-4.23	1158	+131
Lewisburg	93	68	81	+4	1.87	6	28.94	-3.94	1107	+64
Lexington_TN	95	70	82	+3	0.81	3	29.91	-0.40	1188	+458
Linden	94	70	82	+5	1.03	4	27.35	-5.78	1157	+99
Martin	95	72	83	+5	0.29	1	26.64	-4.66	1261	+51
Mc_Minnville_Tn	92	70	81	+4	0.42	3	24.80	-7.14	1153	-204
Memphis_AG	99	72	83	+0	2.87	4	32.07	+1.62	1421	-179
Milan	95	69	82	+4	0.92	5	30.43	-1.60	1233	+49
Murfreesboro_5N	93	71	81	+4	0.41	2	29.09	-2.17	1200	-144
Nashville_Metro	94	71	82	+3	0.70	3	25.19	-2.96	1353	+98
Newcomb	92	68	80	+7	4.34	5	32.77	+0.48	937	+212
Oneida	90	68	79	+6	1.08	6	29.94	-2.35	947	-171
Pikeville	90	70	80	+4	0.28	4	24.26	-7.55	1075	+56
Portland_TN	94	69	82	+5	0.72	4	27.72	-2.99	1187	+172
Pulaski_Water_P	93	70	81	+2	2.78	4	30.00	-2.69	1091	-182
Savannah_6SW	95	69	82	+3	0.18	2	30.16	-3.99	1237	+140
Sparta_TN	92	67	80	+5	0.68	4	29.23	-3.36	1177	+303
Springfield	93	66	80	+4	0.80	2	28.48	-1.07	1142	+110
Springhill	95	68	82	+5	0.12	1	32.81	-0.05	1163	+134
Union_City	94	71	81	+3	0.04	1	30.03	-0.55	1184	-5
Waynesboro_TN	94	71	82	+5	0.36	4	27.76	-6.79	1107	-117

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). GDD = Growing Degree Days.

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

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